

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A game system which enables a player to play a game for evaluating the accuracy of an operation performed when the player has operated an actual performance operation instrument in accordance with an operation instruction given in connection with a displayed image of a performance operation instrument appearing on a game display screen, the game system comprising:

a mark-up processing device which marks up an improvised musical ~~operation~~ performance which is played with a degree of freedom of performance of said game by the player through use of the actual performance operation instrument in accordance with a performance operation instruction.

Claim 2 (original) The game system of claim 1, wherein the mark-up processing device marks up the improvised musical performance on the basis of a progression of musical chords of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The game system of claim 2, wherein the mark-up processing device effects a mark-up operation such that evaluation of the player is increased every time a match between a progression of the musical performance chords and a progression of a plurality of preset mark-up reference chords is found.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The game system of claim 3, wherein a progression of the mark-up reference chords is stored in a form of a table.

Claim 5 (original): The game system of claim 1, wherein the mark-up processing device marks up the improvised musical performance on the basis of musical performance timing of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 6 (original): The game system of claim 5, wherein the mark-up processing device effects mark-up operation such that evaluation of the player is increased every time a match between the musical performance timing and a plurality of preset mark-up reference timings is found.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The game system of claim 6, wherein the mark-up reference timings are stored in a form of a table.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The game system of claim 1, wherein the mark-up processing device marks up the improvised musical performance on the basis of at least one of a progression of musical performance chords and a musical performance timing of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 9 (original): The game system of claim 1, further comprising a guidance information display device which displays guidance information for the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 10 (original): The game system of claim 9, wherein the guidance information display device changes the display image of a performance operation instrument such that the player can understand details of operation to be performed in accordance with a progression in a musical composition which is an object of improvised musical performance.

Claim 11 (original): The game system of claim 9, wherein the guidance information display device displays a musical score such that the player can ascertain the position of an improvised musical performance in a musical score of a musical composition which is an object of improvised musical performance.

Claim 12 (original): The game system of claim 9, wherein the guidance information display device displays a correct progression of chords of a musical composition which is an object of improvised musical performance.

Claim 13. (currently amended): A game system which enables a plurality of players to play a game for evaluating the accuracy of operations performed when the players have operated actual

performance operation instruments in accordance with operation instructions given in connection with a displayed image of a performance operation instrument appearing on a game display screen, the game system comprising:

a mark-up processing device which marks up an improvised duet musical ~~operation~~ performance, said duet musical operation being playable with a degree of freedom of performance of said game by the players through use of the actual performance operation instruments in accordance with performance operation instruction.

Claim 14 (original): The game system of claim 13, wherein the mark-up processing device gives a player a low evaluation when a time required for playing improvised musical performance played by the player fails to fall within a permissible improvised musical performance time preset for each player.

Claim 15 (original): The game system of claim 14, further comprising a mark-up result display device which displays mark-up results such that each of the players can ascertain mark-up results thereof through comparison.

Claim 16. (currently amended): A computer readable medium having recorded thereon a processing program to be used for controlling operation of a game system which enables a player to play a game for evaluating the accuracy of an operation performed when the player has operated an actual performance operation instrument in accordance with an operation instruction given in connection with a display image of a performance operation instrument appearing on a game display screen, the processing program comprising:

a mark-up processing routine for controlling a processor to mark up an improvised musical ~~operation~~ performance which is played with a degree of freedom of performance of said game by the player through use of the actual performance operation instrument in accordance with a performance operation instruction.

Claim 17 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the mark-up processing routine includes marking up of the improvised musical performance on the basis of a progression of musical chords of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 18 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the mark-up processing routine includes marking up of the improvised musical performance on the basis of musical performance timing of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 19 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the mark-up processing routine includes marking up of the improvised musical performance on the basis of a progression of musical performance chords and musical performance timing of the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 20 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the processing program further comprises a processing routine for displaying guidance information for the improvised musical performance of the player.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A computer readable medium having recorded thereon a processing program to be used for controlling the operation of a game system which enables a plurality of players to play a game for evaluating the accuracy of operations performed when the players have operated actual performance operation instruments in accordance with operation instructions given in connection with a display image of a performance operation instrument appearing on a game display screen, the processing program comprising:

a mark-up processing routine for controlling a processor to mark up an improvised duet musical ~~operation~~ performance which is played with a degree of freedom of performance of said game by the players through use of the actual performance operation instruments in accordance with performance operation instruction.

Claim 22 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the mark-up processing routine results low evaluation of a player when a time required for playing improvised musical performance played by the player fails to fall within a permissible improvised musical performance time preset for each player.